Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

130 East Twenty-second Street, New York City

Bulletin

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"Know you what it is to be a child? It is to be something very different from the man of today. It is to have a spirit yet streaming from the waters of baptism; it is to believe in love, to believe in loveliness, to believe in belief; it is to be so little that the elves can reach to whisper in your ear; it is to turn pumpkins into coaches, and mice into horses, lowness into loftiness, and nothing into everything, for each child has its fairy godmother in its own soul; it is to live in a nutshell and count yourself the king of infinite space."

—FRANCIS THOMPSON

THE LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HOLDS FALL BOARD MEETING

October 24–25, 1930

Mr. C. C. Carstens, Executive Director of the League, reported to the Board on staff activities as follows:

"Much of the time of the Executive Director has inevitably been given to the work of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, either in the League's office, or at committee meetings in Washington, New York or Boston.

"All the Conference reports will be worthy of study, but I desire to call your attention especially to the reports of Committees A, C-1 and C-2 of Section IV, to the preparation of which many members of the League have contributed. There are included in these reports notable findings that should have a large influence upon the child welfare work of the country and upon the development of the League.

"We have visited all member agencies requesting service and a number of others from which formal requests for assistance had not been received. The League's staff has also carried on some survey work and a number of studies of individual agencies. The most important of these are the Milwaukee community survey of children's work, the Baltimore survey of a group of children's agencies and institutions, the study of deficiencies in Cleveland's child welfare program, a study for the Rosenwald Fund of the North Carolina institutions for Negroes, a study of the work of the Alabama Child Welfare Department for the Alabama Child Welfare Commission, which is the governing Board, and a study of the Methodist institution at Williamsville, New York.

"Miss Lundberg has been consultant to the Massachusetts Child Welfare Commission and a self-survey committee of St. Paul. The Executive Director has been consultant on a brief survey in Winston-Salem, N. C., made by Mr. Beisser, under the auspices of the American Association of Community Chests and Councils.

"We have also continued our work in connection with a demonstration in Indianapolis, which comes to an end October 31st of this year.

"The Omaha survey reports were completed during the year and some progress has been made in developing the child-care program of that city.

"We have also given post-survey service to the Children's Home Society in Virginia, the Exchange Club of Providence, following up our study of the needs of crippled children in that city, to Omaha, and to the development of the children's program in Oklahoma City. Some service has also been given following up the child welfare survey for the Children's Fund of Michigan and the previous year's study in Cincinnati."

The budget to the amount of $49,750, as submitted by the Executive Director, was approved and he was empowered to make such minor adjustments as necessary. The Director pointed out that as much of the survey staff as possible had been absorbed into the regular staff of the League, so as to prepare for service to membership in accordance with the suggestion of the Board made in April, 1930.

The chairmen of the standing committees for the current year are:

Executive Committee—Mr. Jones
Finance Committee—Mr. Beisser
Regional Conference—Mr. Falconer
Education and Training—Miss Drury
Publications and Research—Mr. Cole
Admission to Membership—Mr. Kepecs
Standards of Membership—Miss Lenroot

The Executive Director suggested certain future developments of the League's program which will be considered during the coming year by the Board of Directors.

The Committee on Regional Conferences arranged for the following meetings during the remainder of 1930 and the first four months of 1931:

Mid-Western Conference—Chicago
Eastern Conference—Baltimore
Southern Conference—Atlanta
Ohio Valley Conference—Louisville

These suggestions were made by the Committee:

A. Each conference should plan definitely to know and present the financial needs of the Child Welfare League.
B. No financial help shall be given to the regional conferences by the Child Welfare League, except

for expenses of sending Child Welfare League staff members and officers, when possible, to the conference. The committee will be glad to consider exceptional circumstances which may modify this recommendation.

C. The White House Conference on Child Health and Protection will supply useful material for programs of regional conferences. The committee recommends that each conference, through its White House Conference representatives, select and use that material in its program which may prove valuable to the local group.

The Committee on Education and Training recommended the approval of League participation in the proposed series of Institutes for institution workers to be held next spring in North and South Carolina and Georgia. Participation in these Institutes will render service to eight member agencies. The manual for cottage mothers in process of preparation by the League will be ready for use at these meetings.

The Committee also recommended that an inquiry be made of the standards and facilities available for the education and training of children's workers from four sources, namely, children's agencies, the School of Social Work, the National Association of Schools of Social Work and the American Association of Social Workers.

The Committee on Admission to Membership approved the application of the Florida State Board of Public Welfare and this agency was admitted to Class E membership in the League.

The report of the Committee on Standards of Membership was adopted with appreciation for the service rendered by the committee members. It was moved that the protective standards, after final editing by the committee, be printed in tentative form for distribution; that the revision of the child-placing standards be postponed until the next meeting of the Board in order that they may be reviewed in the light of the findings of the White House Conference and that work on the institution standards be continued so that they may be mimeographed and circulated in tentative form among the League members.

It was decided that in considering applications of agencies for membership no branch or district office or auxiliary of an agency be admitted to regular membership in the League without the consent of the parent body.

The report of the Committee on Publications and Research was as follows:

"The Committee on Publicity and Research first discussed the *Bulletin* and felt that it was a very good picture of the present operation of the League and the developments among its members. It was realized it had to be well balanced between the various types of work represented. It was felt that greater emphasis might be placed on the forward movements in child care and 'to keep a lap ahead' of the new developments. The recent article on visiting housekeeper service was cited as an example. It was suggested some of the newer movements to be presented might be keeping children out of court, newer trends in keeping children in homes, the place of the day nursery, etc. It was also suggested that there be a discussion of some of the controversial questions with statements from representatives of each side. Suggestions as to topics were the differences in organization for home finding; the set-up for departments of investigation and advice versus new cases going directly to the workers having supervision; the difference in point of view towards dependent and delinquent children, etc. There were no definite recommendations and these were merely suggested.

"Concerning the publication of additional case material, it was felt that there was a very great demand from member agencies for record material in addition to the two case records already published. It was recommended that during the coming year, if at all possible, the time of some staff member be assigned to develop some of this material or making what is now in the office available to members. A bibliography of what was available might be helpful. There also seemed to be a need for a good record on an unmarried mother, one on the problem child in his own home, and some failures in treatment as well as successes. It also was the feeling that the member agencies needed procedure as much as actual record content and it was recommended that if at all possible staff service be released to develop more material, such as would be available in an office manual for members. All of this material would help fill the need as expressed by the recent letter from the Ohio group."

Mrs. Ralph Barrow, of Boston, has prepared some new publicity for the Child Welfare League of America designed to interpret the service of the League to prospective contributors and others interested in the cooperative effort to raise standards of child-care.

LEAGUE'S DIRECTORS AS SOURCES OF NEWS

An informal dinner without a program prepared in advance provided the occasion for brief comments on conditions today in the various communities represented by most of those who attended the October meeting of the Board of Directors of the Child Welfare League of America. Within a few minutes, under the chairmanship of Cheney C. Jones, there was piled up a large amount of news which is retailed as briefly as possible in the following statements:

Mrs. A. M. Tunstall

In Alabama there is general acceptance of the plan to organize social service on a county-wide basis. In all but one of the 67 counties in the state, county child welfare boards have been organized. As many as three workers are employed in some counties. The quality of service is kept high by means of the certification of all county workers by the State Child Wel-

fare Department. The study of the State Child Welfare Department now being made by the Child Welfare League of America is commanding interest throughout the state and it is expected to point the way to substantial improvements of the child welfare work of Alabama.

Miss Louise Drury

The latest project of the Children's Protective Association of Los Angeles consists of the operation of a study home with a capacity for only six children. This small institution is supported by contributions from the children who attend private schools in Los Angeles.

Miss Jessie P. Condit

The most interesting recent development in New Jersey is the reorganization of the State Board of Children's Guardians. The new plans will allow for district (but not county) offices. The Newark office is making an auspicious beginning with its advantage in the leadership of trained social workers.

Jacob Kepecs

The Governor of Illinois appointed a Committee on Child Welfare Legislation, which is at work and is to make its report to the State Legislature in 1931. There are five sub-committees; namely, Dependency, Delinquency, Health and Education, Handicap and County Unit. The Oaks is a new type of institution for children who have failed to adjust elsewhere, and at present is limited to boys with an I. Q. of between 60 and 80. The Oaks has been sponsored by the Institute for Juvenile Research and the Juvenile Court of Cook County, and is being supported from public funds. The Chicago Home for the Friendless has added Housekeeper Service to its present functions with the view of preventing the unnecessary breaking up of families during a temporary crisis. In this undertaking it has the interest and help of the School of Social Administration, University of Chicago.

Miss Ethel Verry

From her recent observations as a member of the faculty of the School of Social Service Administration of the University of Chicago, Miss Verry reported as especially interesting the assignments for field work of some of those who are preparing to work with Negro children.

P. T. Beisser

Baltimore is beginning to economize in the use of institutions for the care of children. There have been some improvements of institutions and in more than one instance an institution not needed has been eliminated from the child welfare program of the community. Although it is not clear just how much it will mean in terms of child welfare—the Maryland oyster crop promises to be a good one. This reference to at least one indication of prosperity provided humorous relief in contrast to some of the reports of hard times from other parts of the country.

Cheney C. Jones

As chairman, Mr. Jones supplied several brief and entertaining comments. As the League's own Will Rogers he did very well, although there may have been some disappointment at his failure to tell about a recent operation—from which he has had a very satisfactory recovery. He contributed a suggestion of opportunities for teaching which may be waiting for many of those in the membership of the League. He told of his own pleasure at the great interest in social problems and social service which was shown by his large class of students at night classes which he teaches at Boston University. He told of progress being made by the Massachusetts Special Commission on the Laws Relative to Children, by which Miss Emma O. Lundberg, of the League's staff, has been retained as consultant.

Alfred F. Whitman

The recent appointment of two women to the Massachusetts State Constabulary is of special interest both because the appointees are social workers experienced in the problems of older girls and because, as far as is known, this is the first time that a state police department has appointed women police. In referring to the noticeable effects of unemployment Mr. Whitman said there seems to be no material increase in the number of applications for service, but that there has been a marked falling off in the reimbursement from parents for the support of their children. Contributions have also fallen off seriously.

Albert H. Stoneman

With his new outlook from the field of social settlement work Mr. Stoneman has become greatly interested in the cooperation of social agencies within the neighborhood. He has found that during the past year 57 social agencies operating in South End have had cooperative relations with the neighborhood house which he represents.

Fred R. Johnson

Detroit is fortunate in having a man as socially minded as Frank Murphy for Mayor. Among other things he has stimulated community fund support. It is a sign of the times and also an indication of Detroit's readiness to meet its own problems when during the first eight months of 1930 the City Department of Public Welfare spent $4,350,000 for outdoor relief.

Douglas P. Falconer

Social workers in Buffalo are speculating about the possibility of founding a school of social work. Although these are days in which some kinds of speculation are unprofitable, Mr. Falconer seemed encouraged

THE CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.

President—Cheney C. Jones, Boston
1st Vice-President—Jacob Kepecs, Chicago
2d Vice-President—Mrs. Lessing J. Rosenwald, Philadelphia
3d Vice-President—Miss Ruth Taylor, New York
Secretary—Miss Jessie P. Condit, Newark
Treasurer—Paul T. Beisser, Baltimore
Executive Director—C. C. Carstens

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by the progress already made by those interested in the proposed school. In a recent visit to an isolated community in the mountains of Virginia he was pleased to find that the Child Welfare League of America was well known by the local workers engaged in a home mission enterprise including the operation of a small institution for children. The clergyman in charge was acquainted with a study of institutions under Southern Presbyterian auspices in which the League participated. One of the institution workers had received training under a member of the League's staff.

Owen R. Lovejoy

Five of The Children's Aid Society's former ten schools have already been closed, and it is expected by 1931 the other five will be closed. By 1931 the Society expects to have six Children's Centers in operation in neighborhoods where delinquency is greatest. Four of these centers, two of which are in Harlem, are already running. Each center comprises a Boys' Club Building, a Girls' Building and a Playground. Besides the usual facilities for recreation and athletics, each club will provide medical and dental supervision. A new feature will be vocational guidance provided by a trained staff of vocational councillors. The emphasis will be on preparing boys for worthwhile jobs by steering them into further educational and vocational opportunities.

Rev. M. L. Kesler

Ten years ago mothers' aid was first provided in North Carolina by the Thomasville Baptist Orphanage (now known as Mills Home). Now every county in North Carolina is providing some mothers' aid or thinking of providing some. The next improvement which must be realized in North Carolina is the development of care for dependent children in family boarding homes. If this is not provided by state or county organizations, we may expect the private institutions in North Carolina to demonstrate the value of this type of service also. Dr. Kesler spoke with approval of the League's participation in programs for the training of institution workers.

Lawrence C. Cole

The new County Board of Child Welfare for Cuyahoga County, in which Cleveland is located, has taken over from the Cleveland Humane Society more than 800 children. For this year the county has made provision for the board of 1,000 children. A movement is under way to secure a bond issue for $1,800,000, which will allow for new administration quarters and detention homes and permit the centralization of all of the welfare work of the county. Special tax levies of .3 mill for county and .6 mill for city are being proposed to increase the appropriation for social work supported by taxation.

Rev. M. F. McEvoy

Evidence of recent social progress in Wisconsin appears in the new children's code which allows for the organization of county child welfare boards. Although this legislation is entirely permissive, ten counties have taken advantage of it and have organized their boards. Legislation permitting the provision of old age pensions on a county basis also has been enacted. A committee studying the poor relief situation in Wisconsin is interested in a plan for county administration of poor relief.

Miss Katharine F. Lenroot

As head of the group of 12 official delegates from the United States to the Sixth Pan-American Child Welfare Congress held during the summer of 1931 in Lima, Peru, Miss Lenroot was prepared to give the occasion an international atmosphere. Although most of the delegates to the Pan-American Child Congresses are physicians, many of them have a broad general interest in social problems. This year particular emphasis was given to the development of social service. Schools of social work have been organized in Chile, and recently in Argentina. The next Congress will be held in Mexico, probably in 1932, and a large number of persons from the United States will probably attend.

Mrs. Charles S. Hopkinson, of Manchester, Massachusetts, asked that she be excused because of the several other members who were reporting on conditions in Massachusetts.—H. W. H.

CHARLESTON ENTERTAINS THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

November 4–6, 1930

A conference program in Charleston has to compete with opportunities for sight-seeing which are unique in the American scene. Strolling about the city to gaze upon the most perfect examples of Georgian architecture in the country, the one and only Battery, the charming walled-in gardens, St. Michael's and St. Phillip's Churches, the sword gates on Legree Street, the old powder magazine of Revolutionary days, the

pirates' rendezvous and Catfish Row is an alluring alternative to continuous conference attendance. Thus a stimulating program is a prerequisite if there is to be any semblance of serious conferring. Otherwise all the delegates may go holiday-minded and fail to appear at the appointed hours.

The small number of persons A.W.O.L. at the various sessions of the recent conference was evidence of the care with which the subject-matter and the speakers had been selected.

The entire program was planned around the central topic, The Child, in order that the State Conference might serve as a preliminary to the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, and thereby prepare the way for further study and later discussion of the White House Conference reports.

The most important official action taken by the Conference was the motion endorsing early reinstatement of the Board of Public Welfare and approving an appropriation of funds by the Legislature which would enable the Board to function in accordance with the provisions of the statutes passed in 1922. While these statutes have never been repealed they are inoperative at the present time. South Carolina needs the leadership which a well-selected Board of Public Welfare would be able to give to the development of a properly coordinated social program.

Mr. Walter B. Wilbur was elected president of the Conference, and Spartanburg, South Carolina, was selected for the 1931 meeting.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE TO MEET IN ATLANTA, DECEMBER 9–10, 1930

Mr. J. P. Faulkner, of the Georgia Department of Public Welfare, is chairman of the Regional Conference program committee. The complete program is not ready for publication as the BULLETIN goes to press. Three half-day sessions will probably be given to the subjects of dependency, neglect and the prevention and treatment of delinquency. State and county organization will be the topic for one-half day of the Conference.

The New York School of Social Work is again offering two Kennedy Field Fellowships of $600 each to practising social workers who are eligible for admission to the School for a period of study covering not less than two consecutive quarters of the School year. The School hopes in this way to assist those social workers who feel that the time has come to take further training, or to give themselves a brief interlude in their working life in order to catch up with the ever-changing aspects of their profession. The Registrar of the School will be glad to furnish further information.

INSTITUTION NEWS

Institution heads, teachers and cottage mothers attending the South Carolina Conference of Social Work were particularly interested in Dr. English Bagby's discussions of personality defects in children. Dr. Bagby is Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Bagby stressed the fact that every child who does not have a confidential relationship with an adult is almost bound to get into difficulties sooner or later. A child suddenly faced with a problem whose solution requires more information than he possesses but without the ability to get such information becomes locked in with emotion. His worry becomes more and more inescapable and he grows emotionally tense. There is thus established a "nucleus for disorder" from which may come a variety of anti-social reactions and conduct disorders.

A more wide-spread recognition of every child's need for close personal relationships with adults qualified to help him over the rough spots he is bound to encounter in growing up, is bound to revolutionize institutional plants and institutional staffing.

The Florida State Board of Public Welfare has employed Miss Mary Stennis, a nutritionist, to write a manual on the feeding of children, for the use of the Florida child-caring institutions. Miss Stennis will spend several days at the institutions which represent the various types, such as urban, rural, those with farms, those without farms, etc., in order to secure data on costs and meal planning.

The availability of citrus fruits and the shortage of the milk supply in Florida make it desirable to have a diet manual prepared by a person who knows native foods.

We predict that Miss Stennis' publication will have the distinction of being the only one in America containing a dissertation on the exceptional food value of turnip greens.

The New York School of Social Work will offer its third institute for the Personnel of Child Caring Institutions February 2–28, 1931. The program will consist of lectures and discussions concerning:

Problems and Methods of Administration
The Child, the Community and the Institution
Personality and Behavior Problems
Can the Institution Meet Individual Needs?
Recreation and Group Activities
Physical Hygiene

THE AMERICAN LEGION REPORTS ON ITS CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM

In the printed reports of the proceedings of the twelfth annual National Convention of the American Legion, held in Boston, October 6–9, 1930, there are statements by Miss Emma C. Puschner, Director of the National Child Welfare Division; comments by the National Chairman of the Committee, Sherman Child, of Minnesota; and a formal report presented by Commander Bodenhamer as part of the accounting of his stewardship during the past year.

The development of the Legion's child welfare program still stands as one of the outstanding achievements in the country in synchronizing the humane and generous impulses of a large and undifferentiated constituency with modern social practice, with present-day social objectives and with existing community resources for child care.

It seems worth while to quote Commander Bodenhamer's report in full in order that all of the member agencies of the League may be informed as to the present status of the Legion's program:

"During the past few years, Legion leaders have been endeavoring to determine the scope of Legion service in the Child Welfare problems which developed as a result of the World War, and to find the agency or the medium through which this service could be most effectively and most appropriately performed by The American Legion. It has long been recognized that The American Legion cannot hope to furnish the direct financial relief which is demanded. The Child Welfare program, as defined by the National Child Welfare Committee of The American Legion, has been developed toward a definite objective—that of securing legislation by which direct relief can be secured from governmental agencies, under the fostering and supervising hand of a well-trained and sympathetic human agency.

"The American Legion aspires to an ideal Child Welfare program which would keep dependent children in their own homes or in foster homes, with a sustaining assistance from governmental agencies, thus making it possible for these dependent boys and girls of today to be trained under home influence in the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship, which were so patriotically and heroically exemplified by their fathers, who gave their service to America.

"The billet program, adopted in the early days of The American Legion's Child Welfare activities, is, in the opinion of Child Welfare leaders, not compatible with the ideal above referred to. Under such circumstances, it was deemed advisable to make proper transfers of Legion controlled billet properties to other agencies, and to make it possible for the entire resources of The American Legion to be used in the advancement of the program most recently adopted.

"Efforts have been made this year to bring about a proper disposition of Legion controlled billets, and I am privileged to report that the Otter Lake Billet has been transferred to the Department of Michigan, with the assurance that same will receive the generous financial support of the State of Michigan. Conferences have been held, and proposals have been made, by which the Kansas Department has expressed its willingness to assume the obligations of existing contracts in connection with the Legion billet in Kansas. If this proposed agreement is sanctioned by the proper authorities in session in Boston, then the National Organization of The American Legion will have been relieved of further obligation to maintain or operate billets or kindred institutions.

"It is to be hoped that the entire thought and effort of the National Child Welfare Committee can be given to the promotion of those activities which look to the ideal program, to which reference has been made. And progress has already been made this year in the direction of this program. Laws looking to the relief of dependent children have been passed in many states, and the Legion has had a part in their passage. Special surveys have been or are now being conducted in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas and Washington. The purpose of these surveys is to pave the way for the enactment of proper and additional legislation. Forty-four State Legislatures will be in session during the year 1931, and it is my recommendation that every effort be made by the Legion officials in these forty-four states to secure, by survey or otherwise, the information and data necessary to make possible the enactment of constructive and progressive legislation for the care of dependent children in their respective states."

PUBLICATIONS

The Thanksgiving number of the *Little Wanderers Advocate* has been somewhat changed as to form with the idea that it may be unfolded and hung on a wall or bulletin board in each church and Sunday school so that the attractive pictures which it contains may be easily seen by the children.

A brief history of the organization of the New England Home for Little Wanderers, a summing-up of the major features of the present program, a well-written case story, suggestions as to what should go into the Thanksgiving bags and expressions of appreciation for the interest which New England people have consistently shown through the years for children in need of special care, afford interesting subject matter.

Member agencies which have not received the Thanksgiving *Advocate* may secure copies upon request from Cheney C. Jones.

The Children's Department of the St. Louis Community Council has prepared standards for local child-placing agencies which are of interest chiefly because they represent group action. The psychological effect of having agencies work together on a standard-making project is to enlist an interest which is rarely stimulated if all of the work is done by extra-agency individuals or organizations. Mimeographed copies of the

St. Louis standards may be secured from the Community Council, 2221 Locust Street, St. Louis.

Religion in the Present Day Home is the topic discussed in the November number of *Child Study*, a journal of parent education, published by the Child Study Association of America.

Among the contributors are: Harry Emerson Fosdick, Dr. John Lovejoy Elliott, Professor William H. Kilpatrick, Sophia Lyon Fahs, Grace Loucks Elliott, Professor Angus Hector MacLean, Professor Floyd H. Allport.

The need of an issue on this subject arose from the fact that of all the questions which parents asked in study groups in the past year, the question of "religion in the present-day home" has stood out as of paramount importance. The topics discussed are: How Shall We Think About Religion, When Children Ask About God, Something About Sunday School Children, The Religion of a Scientist.

The printed report on the first institute for children's institution workers, held at the State Public School, Sparta, Wisconsin, in July, 1929, under the auspices of the Juvenile Department of the State Board of Control, will be of interest to state departments, religious groups and community councils which are considering plans for further training of people already on the job in child-caring institutions.

Salaries and Vacations in Family Case Work in 1929, by Ralph G. Hurlin, is the name of a recent pamphlet published by the Russell Sage Foundation (price, 10c). Though concerned only with the family field, the data presented should be of considerable value in any related social field.

Another Year of Team Work is the title of the report of Mr. William Hodson, Executive Director of the Welfare Council, in which he sums up the activities and accomplishments of the Council to date.

There are few more thrilling stories to be found in social work annals than the story of how, like Lochinvar, Mr. Hodson came out of the West and proceeded to help local leaders bring order out of the chaos resulting from the uncoordinated efforts of New York's multiplicity of social agencies.

Copies of *Another Year of Team Work* may be secured, upon request, from the Welfare Council of New York, 151 Fifth Avenue.

NEW MEMBERS

FLORIDA—State Board of Public Welfare (E), Tallahassee, Miss Helen C. Mawer, Commissioner.

MR. THURSTON ELECTED TO LEAGUE BOARD

At the recent meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. Thurston, who helped to guide the League through its pinafore days, was elected to fill a Board vacancy.

The membership of the League and the staff welcome the return of Mr. Thurston to active participation in the work of the organization.

CHANGES FOR DIRECTORY

DELAWARE—Children's Bureau of Delaware, Wilmington. New address: 915 Tatnall Street. Add H. to name of Miss Elizabeth (H.) Woodward.

MASSACHUSETTS—Jewish Children's Bureau, Boston. New address: 6 N. Russell Street.

NEW YORK—Brooklyn Children's Aid Society, Brooklyn. O. T. Lytle, Acting Director.

OHIO—Children's Bureau, Social Service Federation, Toledo. New address: 227½ N. Erie Street.

PENNSYLVANIA—Pittsburgh Home for Babies, Ingram. Miss Mary Blythe Wilson, Superintendent, succeeding Miss Smith.

RHODE ISLAND—Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Providence. New address: 100 N. Main Street.

WISCONSIN—Catholic Social Welfare Bureau, Milwaukee. New address: 797 N. Van Buren Street.

—Children's Home and Aid Society, Milwaukee. New address: 2825 Kilbourn Avenue.

—Juvenile Protective Association, Milwaukee. New address: 789 North Van Buren Street.

THE PLACE OF THE MATERNITY HOME IN A CHILD CARE PROGRAM

(Continued from page 8, column 2)

also true. A young white mother of low mentality who was kept in a maternity home with her colored baby for much longer than the usual time, with no thinking ahead to an adjustment in the community, has gone through years of bitter misery because she could neither accept having her child with her nor bear to give her up. An early separation would have been contrary to the rule of the institution and the accepted principle of keeping the mother and baby together. But from the point of view of both the child and the mother, it might have insured a more stable and happier future.

The maternity home worker should bear in mind that a plan for foster care cannot be made hastily, and should enlist as early as possible the cooperation of the children's agency. When the mother and child leave the home the arrangement will be a natural result of months of case work. During this period the mother and the social worker in the maternity home, and—if foster care is to be the plan—the worker from the children's organization will have considered all the possibilities and will therefore be ready for the next step.

INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON ILLEGITIMACY
BULLETIN

President: Miss Maud Morlock, Cleveland, Ohio
Vice-President: Miss Sabina Marshall, Cleveland, Ohio
Secretary: Miss Grace Redding, Cleveland, Ohio
Treasurer: Lawrence C. Cole, Cleveland, Ohio

THE PLACE OF THE MATERNITY HOME IN A CHILD CARE PROGRAM

Miss Mary Frances Smith
Supervisor, Reception Dept., Children's Bureau of Philadelphia

The first approach in maternity home care is to the mother. There has been much discussion of the possible values and dangers to her in this method of group care, and of her need of individual treatment in an institutional life. The maternity home which realizes its responsibility for providing something more than a few months' shelter has emphasized the possibilities for constructive training and vocational guidance for the young mother. Many maternity homes have built up satisfactory physical arrangements for the babies and are giving them a good start under careful medical supervision.

The practice varies when the time comes for the mother and baby to leave the home, and frequently the emphasis changes. The maternity home, having been primarily concerned with the mother's adjustment, now thinks of its responsibility in terms of a plan for the baby. If foster care is needed and can be arranged through a children's agency, the maternity home often withdraws completely. In other instances the maternity home feels a continuing responsibility for the mother, and sometimes makes a permanent plan for the baby. In any case, the maternity home has to face at some time the question of its responsibility for the baby—not in the indirect relationship through the mother, but directly, when the baby's future as a separate personality has to be considered. If the plan involves foster care for the baby there is another decision to be made of how the plan is to be carried out. To state two phases of the problem in their simplest terms—should a maternity home do child placement, either for boarding care or for adoption—and what should be the working arrangement between the maternity home and the child-care agencies in the community.

Naturally no one answer will fit every community and situation. Much will depend on available social resources. However, we have learned from other experiences that policies should not be determined solely by existing conditions. A refusal to undertake a job for which an organization is not fitted may result in the provision of more adequate resources.

What are the specialized aspects of foster care for children? After a number of years of experience and experimenting, foster family agencies with the widest possible divergence in methods have agreed on two essentials to insure good care. The first is a thorough and unbiased inquiry covering the child's family backgrounds, its personality, and the foster family in which it is placed. The other is a continuing and constructive supervision of the child in the foster family. Both these factors imply the service of a trained social worker who is making this her main job rather than a side issue.

Maternity homes are recognizing more and more the advisability of having experienced and qualified social workers as an integral part of their staff and the necessity of thus effecting the adjustment of the unmarried mother, whether she is still within the home or in the community outside. But few of them can afford to have one worker specializing in child placement. This would not necessarily be a good thing if they could arrange it. The number of babies from the maternity home of average size—for maternity homes cannot successfully operate on a large scale—who need foster care at any one time will be comparatively small. In many instances one very necessary step for the mother in making a good adjustment comes in breaking away from the protection of the maternity home and making outside contacts. If the maternity home were to do a child placement job, there is added the danger of advertising in the community the child's particular handicap, less likely when the child is under the care of a general children's agency. The diversified and developing problems of the growing child take him farther away from the specialized interests of the maternity home. All these factors militate against the successful combination of maternity home and child placement organization. In a permanent plan, as in the case of adoption, where supervision will eventually cease, it is all the more important that the original work be done most carefully and by the most experienced group possible.

In developing a working relationship between maternity home and a foster family agency, the most important thing seems to be the need for early planning together. The maternity home has an opportunity to touch at the beginning the lives of many children who are going to become dependent, or for whom dependency may be prevented if careful work is done at the right time. The maternity home worker who keeps in mind the future while dealing with the present will lay the foundation for future work. The converse is

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